
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8014

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Honeyford, Franklin, Mulliken, Keiser and Hewitt

Read first time 02/06/2003. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Trade.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The Department of Labor has implemented a new way of
9 budgeting for the state administrative costs of the Unemployment
10 Insurance program called the Resource Justification Model; and

11 WHEREAS, There is insufficient correlation between a state's
12 comparative workload or unemployment rate and a state's allocation of
13 funds under the Resource Justification Model; and

14 WHEREAS, There are wide variations in what types of expenses and
15 assumptions were made by individual states when using the Resource
16 Justification Model, which resulted in a nonuniform consideration of
17 state funding needs by the Department of Labor; and

18 WHEREAS, The Resource Justification Model would reduce
19 administrative funding to the Employment Security Department by 4.7

1 million dollars in fiscal year 2003 from the fiscal year 2002
2 allocation, despite the fact that Washington has one of the highest
3 unemployment rates in the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, This loss of funds, if not abated or reversed, will result
5 in a crippling of benefit services to the unemployed and diminished tax
6 services for the employer community, both of which can have a drastic
7 impact on the integrity of the unemployment insurance system in this
8 state;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress
10 should: Adequately fund state administration of the unemployment
11 insurance system based upon appropriate criteria; encourage the
12 Department of Labor to set aside the Resource Justification Model for
13 fiscal year 2003 while additional evaluations of the system are
14 undertaken; and seriously consider the Washington State Employment
15 Security Department's October 14, 2002, revised submittal under the
16 Resource Justification Model.

17 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
18 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
19 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
20 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
21 Washington.

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